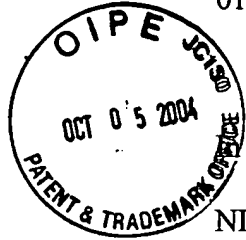


01311.001602.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Re Application of:

NICHOLAS J. DORAN ET AL.

Application No.: 09/083,966

Filed: May 26, 1998

For: DISPERSION MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM FOR SOLITON OPTICAL
TRANSMISSION SYSTEM

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) Examiner: K. Negash
)

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) Group Art Unit: 2633
)

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)
) September 30, 2004

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

A Request For Continued Examination (RCE) is filed concurrently herewith.

Preliminary to continued examination, please further amend the above-identified application in the following manner. Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing beginning at page 2, and the Remarks begin at page 6.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

September 30, 2004
(Date of Deposit)

Douglas Sharrott (Reg. No. 39,832)
(Name of Attorney for Applicants)

Signature

September 30, 2004
Date of Signature